In the Claims:

- 1-36. Cancelled.
- 37. (Currently amended) A method of reducing IGF mediated proliferation of a population of cancerous cells, the method including the step of contacting the population of cells with an-the altered IGFBP-2 as in of claim 1 42.
- 38. (Previously presented) The method of reducing IGF mediated proliferation of a population of cancerous cells as in claim 37 wherein the cancerous cells are selected from the group consisting of prostate, colon and breast cancer cells.
- 39. (Original) The method of reducing IGF mediated proliferation of a population of cancerous cells as in claim 37 wherein the cancerous cells are colon cancer cells.
- 40-41. Cancelled.
- 42. (Currently amended) An The altered human IGFBP-2 molecule able to effect binding of IGF I or IGF II with high affinity of claim 67 wherein an inhibited release of IGF occurs on contact with an extracellular matrix (ECM), the altered IGFBP-2 molecule having has an alteration at both of positions 180 and 181.
- 43. (Previously presented) The altered human IGFBP-2 molecule of claim 42 wherein the alterations are K180A and K181A.
- 44. (Previously presented) The altered human IGFBP-2 molecule of claim 42 additionally having an alteration at amino acid position 234.

- 45. (Previously presented) The altered human IGFBP-2 molecule of claim 42 additionally comprising a deletion of amino acids 114 through 170.
- 46. (Previously presented) An altered human IGFBP-2 molecule able to effect binding of IGF-I or IGF-II with high affinity wherein an inhibited release of IGF occurs on contact with an extracellular matrix (ECM), the altered IGFBP-2 molecule having an alteration at the amino acid at position 234.
- 47. (Previously presented) The altered human IGFBP-2 molecule of claim 46 wherein the alteration is K234A.
- 48. (Previously presented) The altered human IGFBP-2 molecule of claim 46 additionally having an alteration at both of positions 180 and 181.
- 49. (Previously presented) The altered human IGFBP-2 molecule of claim 46 additionally comprising a deletion of amino acids 114 through 170.
- 50. (Previously presented) An altered human IGFBP-2 molecule able to effect binding of IGF-I or IGF-II with high affinity wherein an inhibited release of IGF occurs on exposure to a protease, the altered IGFBP-2 molecule comprising a deletion of amino acids 114 through 170.
- 51. (Previously presented) The altered human IGFBP-2 molecule of claim 46 additionally having an alteration at both of positions 180 and 181.
- 52. (Previously presented) A nucleic acid encoding the altered IGFBP-2 molecule according to claim 42.

- 53. (Previously presented) A nucleic acid encoding the altered IGFBP-2 molecule according to claim 44.
- 54. (Previously presented) A nucleic acid encoding the altered IGFBP-2 molecule according to claim 45.
- 55. (Previously presented) A nucleic acid encoding the altered IGFBP-2 molecule according to claim 46.
- 56. (Previously presented) A nucleic acid encoding the altered IGFBP-2 molecule according to claim 49.
- 57. (Previously presented) A nucleic acid encoding the altered IGFBP-2 molecule according to claim 50.
- 58. (Previously presented) A method of reducing IGF mediated proliferation of a population of cancerous cells, the method including the step of contacting the population of cells with the altered IGFBP-2 of claim 45.
- 59. (Previously presented) The method of reducing IGF mediated proliferation of a population of cancerous cells as in claim 58 wherein the cancerous cells are selected from the group consisting of prostate, colon and breast cancer cells.
- 60. (Previously presented) The method of reducing IGF mediated proliferation of a population of cancerous cells as in claim 58 wherein the cancerous cells are colon cancer cells.

- 61. (Previously presented) A method of reducing IGF mediated proliferation of a population of cancerous cells, the method including the step of contacting the population of cells with the altered IGFBP-2 of claim 46.
- 62. (Previously presented) The method of reducing IGF mediated proliferation of a population of cancerous cells as in claim 61 wherein the cancerous cells are selected from the group consisting of prostate, colon and breast cancer cells.
- 63. (Previously presented) The method of reducing IGF mediated proliferation of a population of cancerous cells as in claim 61 wherein the cancerous cells are colon cancer cells.
- 64. (Previously presented) A method of reducing IGF mediated proliferation of a population of cancerous cells, the method including the step of contacting the population of cells with the altered IGFBP-2 of claim 49.
- 65. (Previously presented) The method of reducing IGF mediated proliferation of a population of cancerous cells as in claim 64 wherein the cancerous cells are selected from the group consisting of prostate, colon and breast cancer cells.
- 66. (Previously presented) The method of reducing IGF mediated proliferation of a population of cancerous cells as in claim 64 wherein the cancerous cells are colon cancer cells.
- 67. (New) (New) An altered human IGFBP-2 molecule able to effect binding of IGF-I or IGF-II with high affinity wherein an inhibited release of IGF occurs on contact with an extracellular matrix (ECM), the altered IGFBP-2 molecule having an alteration at position 180.

68 . (New) The altered human IGFBP-2 molecule of claim 67 wherein the alteration is $K180\mbox{\em K}$